CLAIMS

What is claimed is new and desired to be protected by Letters Patent is set forth in the appended claims:

1. A personal computer failsafe protection device for disconnecting a computer system from a communications channel during power down periods, said personal computer failsafe protection device comprising:

    a) means for sensing a voltage drawn by the computer system;

    b) an input port for connecting to a communications channel;

    c) an output for connecting said input port to a communications channel input of the computer system; and

    d) a relay connected between said input port and output port for selectively disconnecting said input port and output port upon said sensing means sensing the voltage drawn is below a threshold value indicating the computer system is in a powered down or sleep state.

Kouropoulos; Doc. # PK-1; 8 July, 2000

2.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said input and output ports are cable connectors, said input port being connectable to a cable line.

3.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said input and output ports are xDSL, said input port being connectable to a xDSL line.

4.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said input and output ports are telephone connectors, said input port being connectable to a telephone line.

5.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said device includes first, second and third input ports, first, second and third corresponding output ports and first second and third relays, each relay being connected between a respective pair of input and output ports.

6.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 5, wherein said first input and first output ports are cable connectors, said second input and second output ports are xDSL connectors and said third input and third output ports are telephone connectors.

7.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 6, further comprising a telephone/facsimile connector, said telephone/facsimile connector being powered on at all times said device is in the on mode.

8.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 1, further comprising a manual override switch for manually triggering said relay to disconnect said input and output ports.

9.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 5, further comprising a manual override switch for manually triggering said relay to disconnect said first, second and third input ports from said first, second and third output ports, respectively.

10.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 9, wherein said means for sensing senses a voltage drawn by a monitor of the computer system.

11.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said means for sensing triggers said relay to connect said input and output port during a predetermined period during a day thereby allowing a user to contact the computer system through the communications channel during the predetermined time of day.

12.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein said device is connected to a power source and includes a power outlet for connection with an supplying power to the computer system, said means for sensing the amount of voltage used by the computer system.

13.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 11, wherein said device is connected to a power source and includes a power outlet for connection with and supplying power to a monitor of the computer system, said means for sensing the amount of voltage used by the monitor.

14.   The personal computer failsafe protection device as recited in Claim 1, wherein the monitor decreases an amount of voltage needed upon entering a sleep mode after a predetermined period of inactivity, the decreased amount of voltage needed being of a value able to cause said sensing means to trigger said relay to disconnect said input and output ports.